

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace Paragraph 9 on page 3 with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

---FIG. 1 depicts ~~an example 8 illustrating~~ transmission of a data packet 10 and associated control information 14 in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention. Preferably, both data packet 10 and control information 14 are channel coded prior to transmission for purposes of enhancing error compensation at the receiver. Data packet 10 is divided into a plurality of data sub-packets 12-n, where  $n \geq 1$ . Note that data packet 10 could either be channel coded data or plain data. In the latter case, the data sub-packets would need to---